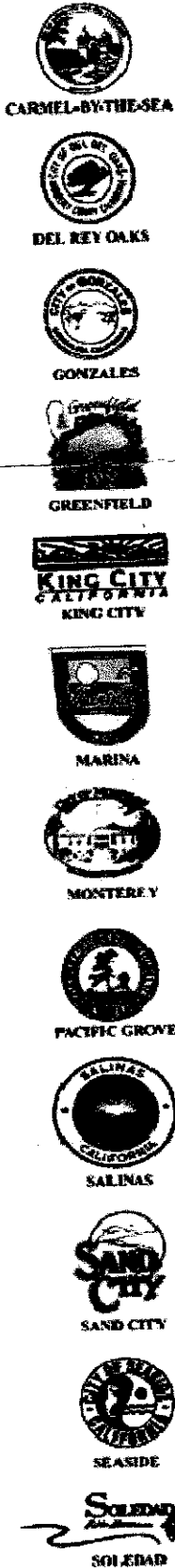


# MONTEREY COUNTY MAYORS' ASSOCIATION

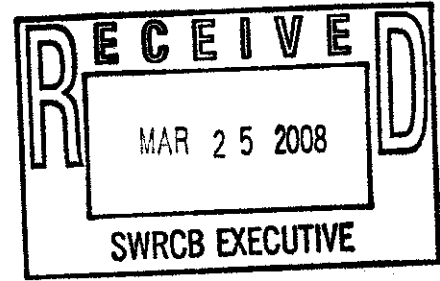


March 20, 2008

Jeanine Townsend, Clerk to the Board  
State Water Resources Control Board  
1001 I Street, 24th Floor  
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Carmel River Hearing

Dear Ms. Townsend,



The Monterey County Mayors' Association voted unanimously at its March 7, 2008 monthly meeting to oppose the "Cease and Desist Order" issued by the State Water Quality Resources Control Board against the California-American Water Company (Cal-Am).

Should the State Water Board agree to proceed as recommended by its staff, the Mayor's Association strongly requests that the hearing be held at an appropriate location on the Monterey Peninsula.

The Peninsula and Monterey County have a lengthy history of more than 100 years as a popular tourist destination. These visitors generate thousands of jobs and revenues which account for major portions of the municipal budgets of Cal Am's customer base. The impacts of the proposed "Cease and Desist Order" will have a very severe "domino effect" on the economic well-being of this large County.

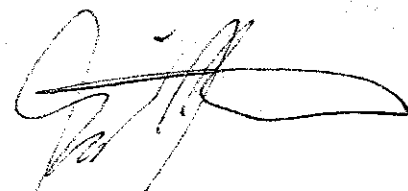
The Monterey Peninsula Water Management District (MPWMD) has a solid record of effective water conservation practices that have drastically reduced water use by more than 30%.

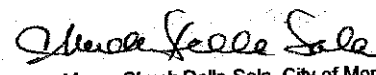
The State Water Board stated in Order 95-10, page 37 "that the people and businesses on the Monterey Peninsula must continue to be served water from the Carmel River in order to protect public health and safety." Nothing has changed except the exemplary conservation record of the users and the economic downturn nationally and statewide.


At the time of the 1995 Order, the population of the MPWMD was 103,000. As of 2007, it had grown to 111,483. To now reduce further than the 20% Cal-Am pumping reductions of 11,285 a.f. would put the public health and safety of a significant number of people at risk. In other words, reducing another 1,693 a.f. from the current level would be devastating to the local economies and job markets and the devastation it would bring about would take years to recover from.


We ask that you reschedule the June 19-20 hearing to the Monterey Peninsula.

Sincerely,


  
Mayor Dennis Donohue, City of Salinas

  
Mayor Chuck Della Sala, City of Monterey

  
Mayor John Huerta Jr., City of Greenfield



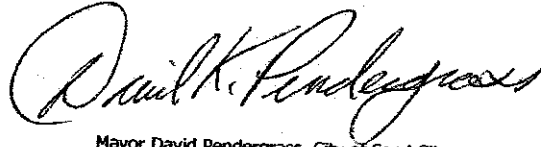
Mayor Ralph Rubio, City of Seaside



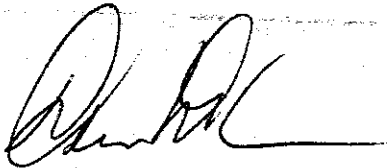
Mayor Dan Cort, City of Pacific Grove



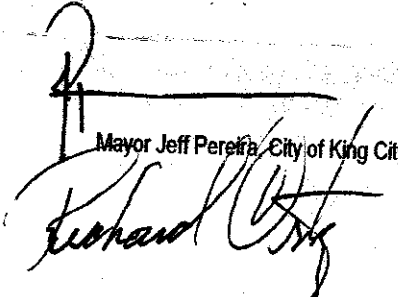
Mayor Joseph Russell, City of Del Rey Oaks



Mayor David Pendergrass, City of Sand City



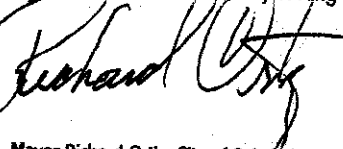
Mayor Gary Wilmot, City of Marina



Mayor Jeff Pereira, City of King City



Mayor Sue McCloud, City of Carmel



Mayor Richard Ortiz, City of Soledad



Mayor George Worthy, City of Gonzales

Cc: Judy Lehman, Chair, Monterey Peninsula Water Management District  
Craig Anthony, General Manager, California American Water